

PROF. LAYTON THE MAN.

Interviews With Prominent Local Afro-Americans Show Prof. John T. Layton to be the Popular Choice for Director of Music for the Colored Schools.

The death of Mrs. Alice Strange Davis leaves a vacancy in the musical corps of the colored schools of the District. Since her demise a great many candidates, including those who are holding positions as well as outsiders are clamoring for the position made vacant by her death. The high standard attained in music by the District schools is such that a selection of a successor to Mrs. Davis is a difficult one. The most prominent as well as the most popular candidate for the position is Prof. John T. Layton who has taught music in the public schools of this city for the past seventeen years, and during the last ten years of that period has had charge of music in the High School.

He has been a diligent student of music for twenty-five years and has received instructions from such eminent masters as Dr. E. S. Kimball of this city, Prof. Tinney of the New England Conservatory of Music, and Prof. Ernest Lentz, under whose instruction he made a specialty of harmony, counterpoint and the rules governing composition. In 1896 Prof. Layton attended the Summer Conservatory of Music, held at Martha's Vineyard, Mass. of which Prof. Carl Yachtmann was musical director. In a class of forty-seven students, all of whom were teachers, Prof. Layton stood number one and received the certificate of free scholarship awarded to the student showing the highest proficiency in all branches of vocal music.

Prof. Layton has composed several sacred songs of considerable merit, which have been published and are being sung in all the leading church choirs of this city and the neighboring cities. He is the only colored composer in the United States who has compiled a church hymnal. His hymnal, which contains a number of his own compositions is used in all the churches of the African Methodist Episcopal Connection.

For more than twenty years he has been director of the famous choir of the Metropolitan A. M. E. church, a musical organization of national reputation. In addition to Prof. Layton's knowledge of music, he is a competent director, a good organizer and is possessed of considerable executive ability. These are believed to be the requisite qualifications for the promotion he seeks from the Board of Education.

Among the many who endorsed him were the following:

I don't see how the Board can consistently do otherwise than appoint Prof. Layton,—Dr. Wm. H. Conner.

You may quote me as being in favor of Prof. Layton. B. B. Brandon.

I have no hesitancy in declaring for Prof. Layton. Geo W Pitts.

Prof John T Layton is the man for the place. Dr Frank Davis.

Put me down for anything Prof Layton wants. A J Farley.

You may say that I am in favor of Prof John T Layton. Daniel Murray.

There is only one John T Layton. Say that I am for him. Daniel Brooks.

I am too busy putting in tickets for Prof Layton to sit around on store boxes talking about it. H Y Arnett.

I am pleased to testify to John T Layton's worth for the place. Edgar B Beckley.

Just tell them that Layton is the man and beside him there is no other. Samuel Lacey.

Prof John T Layton would be a credit to the position and I believe he would fill it with honor. Alexander Richardson.

Prof Layton is my choice and he ought to have the place. D B McCary.

Yes indeed. I am for Layton first, last and all the time. Sumner Wormley.

Layton would give me satisfaction, J H Stewart.

John T Layton is the only man. John Turner.

Layton, why certainly. Who else is running? John Nalle.

Say anything for me in favor of Layton. H C Bruce.

It is a pleasure for me to testify to Prof Layton's worth for the position. F D Lee. Certainly I am for Layton. Who else do you suppose? Dr Jas Walker.

If it is the purpose of the reform Board to reform then the place belongs to Prof Layton by just right. Dr A H Stevens.

Prof Layton is preeminently the man. Hamilear Turley.

There is no question but that Prof Layton is the right man for the place. C G Williams. There is no better man than Layton for the place. Dr John S Outlaw.

You may say any good thing about Layton for me that you wish. He's the right man for the place. Dr J N Johnson.

Yes, sir, John T Layton. He's the man. He ought to have had it before. Wm G Smith.

Don't misunderstand my position. I am for Layton. Geo D Graham.

It is not easy to understand why Prof Layton shouldn't have this place. Dr D A Lane.

It is a pleasure for me to testify to Prof Layton's fitness for the position of musical director of the colored public schools of Washington. Dr H S Smith.

I don't see why Prof Layton shouldn't have the position. J H Camper.

Prof John T Layton? Sure. John B Hyman. I would like to see Prof Layton get the place. Wm G Ferguson.

Prof Layton is the logical candidate for the place. Willis A Madden.

Mr Layton is entitled to the place both by reason of his talents and by reason of his extraordinary service to the public in the past. Richard B Peters.

By all means let it be John T Layton. J S George.

Among others who may be mentioned who are favorable to Mr Layton's candidacy are Hon. H P Cheatham, Hon. Judson W Lyons, Hon. Geo H White, Mr Whitfield McKinley, Messrs Lewis and Chas Douglass, Drs Watts Wilder, Messrs David Warner, Tyson, and, a host of others.



MR. J. T. LEE, Saratoga, N. Y.

(See article "Polls in Saratoga," page 11.)

AN ALL STAR CONCERT.

A grand star concert will be given at the John Wesley church, Connecticut avenue between L and M streets, Friday evening, September 21st, 1900, under the auspices of the Bishop Walter's Club. On this occasion great pleasure will be taken to present the leading talent of the District. The following named singers and speakers will participate: The Amphion Glee Club, Prof. J. T. Layton, Mr. Winston Payne, Miss Chanie Patterson, Mrs. Lula Joy Brooks, Miss Mattie R Bowen, Miss Ottie M. Brooks, Prof. J. Henry Lewis, musical director; Prof. Wm. Braxton, pianist. Every one who wishes to spend an evening of pleasure should not miss this opportunity of a rare treat. Committee of arrangements: Mrs. S. I Orme, president; Miss Marie Brown, secretary; Mrs. M. R. Wright, treasurer. Rev. B. J. Bolding, pastor. Admission 25 cents.

THE GRAND FOUNTAIN.

United Order of True Reformers.

ORGANIZED January 1, 1881.
Offices 604, 606 and 608 N. 2nd St., - - Richmond, Va.

The Strongest Financial Organization the Negro Has Produced in This Country.
Read and learn for yourself what it has done and how to become a member.

SUBORDINATE FOUNTAINS.

Subordinate Fountains are composed of males and females, sound in health and mind, and of good moral character.

Conventions.—When joining the Order through Conventions, persons are taken in from 14 to 50 years of age; when joining the Fountain by application persons are taken from 14 to 80 years of age complete.

Joining or Benefit Fees.—From 14 to 20 years of age, \$4.00; at 20, \$3.10; at 25, \$2.60; at 30, \$2.10.

Death Benefits.—\$75 and \$125. Should death occur within the first year, \$75; after the first year, \$125 will be paid to the heirs, assigns or legal representatives.

Sick Benefits.—From \$6 to \$8 per month, paid weekly.

Monthly Dues are 35 or 50 cents per month. Taxes are 80 cents annually, paid semi-annually, January and July. The monthly dues secure the highest weekly sick benefits.

Life Membership.—Ten shares of Bank Stock, costing each member \$5 a share, make said member a life member. After paying dues and owning the stock one year, the fruits of the stock will pay the member's dues, and leave a handsome little balance each year. Just calculate—monthly dues, 50 cents per month, and taxes 80 cents per year, amount to \$6.80, and a dividend on ten shares of stock at 20 per cent on the dollar, or \$1 per share, amounts to \$10 annually, which will pay the member's dues, \$6.80, and leave a balance of \$3.20. Should the dues be 35 cents per month, and 80 cents taxes per year, the monthly dues and taxes will amount to \$5 per year. The dividend of \$10 would pay the monthly dues and taxes, and leave a balance of \$5.

Additional Benefits of Life Membership.—Should adverse circumstances befall a member, said member may take his ten shares of stock and Fountain policy, and secure a loan from \$1 to \$98, which will enable said member to tide over the misfortune, pay up the loan, redeem his policy and stock, and go on his way rejoicing.

2. ROSEBUD FOUNTAIN (For the Children.)

Rosebud Fountains are composed for children, male and female, from 8 to 14 years of age.

Joining or Benefit Fees, \$1.50; paid spot cash or by instalments.

Death Benefits.—\$24.50 and \$37.00. Should death occur within the first year, \$24.50; after the first year \$37 will be paid to the parents or guardians.

Sick Benefits.—From \$1.50 to \$4.00 per month paid weekly; 50 cents, 75 cents and \$1 per week, respectively. The highest monthly dues purchase the highest weekly sick benefits.

Monthly Dues and Taxes.—The monthly dues are 10 cents, 15 cents, or 25 cents, respectively, just as the Fountain may decide. Taxes, 10 cents annually, paid semi-annually, January and July. The child is allowed to purchase five shares of Bank Stock, which makes his policy self-supporting, with a balance each year.

8. THE REGALLA.

This Department furnishes all Regalla that is worn by the members of the Order. For style and prices write for price list.

4 CLASSES.

B and E Classes admit a membership, male and female, and secure life and death benefits.

B Class Policies are as follows:

CLASS B TABLE.

Ages.	Joining Fee.	Value of Certificate.	Annual Dues.	Paid Quarterly.
14 to 25 years.....	\$2 50	\$200 00	\$4 75	\$1 20
25 to 35 years.....	2 75	200 00	4 75	1 20
35 to 45 years.....	3 00	200 00	5 70	1 43
45 to 50 years.....	3 25	140 00	6 05	1 06
50 to 55 years.....	3 25	115 00	6 05	1 06
55 to 60 years.....	3 50	90 00	7 60	1 00
60 to 65 years.....	3 50	65 00	7 60	1 00

E Class Policies are as follows:

CLASS E TABLE.

Ages.	Joining Fee.	Value of Certificate.	Annual Dues.	Paid Quarterly.
14 to 25 years.....	\$5 00	\$500 00	\$9 50	\$2 40
25 to 35 years.....	5 25	500 00	9 50	2 40
35 to 45 years.....	5 50	500 00	10 40	2 85
45 to 50 years.....	5 75	450 00	11 40	2 85
50 to 55 years.....	5 75	400 00	11 40	2 85
55 years (Complete).....	6 00	350 00	11 00	2 85

The ages are reckoned from the last birthday. Remember that the applicant is benefited as soon as his policy is issued. The annual dues of either of the above named Classes may be divided into quarterly payments of three months each, payable the 1st of January, April, July, and October.

The balance of annual dues remaining to the credit of each member after paying expenses will go to the purchase of Bank Stock for said member.

If dues are paid annually in advance, the member gets 5 per cent drawback in cash, and his full proportion of annual dues. By the latter mode of payment each member is made his own collector, thereby making the membership independent of the agent, and self-supporting, and the member receiving the percentage that would be paid to the agent to collect.

You will readily see that the members of either one of these classes are only required to meet once or four times a year, while the Fountains and Rosebuds meet twice a month.

Life Benefits.—The members of B Class are allowed to purchase 15 shares of Bank Stock, and two shares for each year of their membership. The stock yields a dividend of 10 per cent, or one dollar per share. Should misfortune befall them on their pathway of life, they may take their stock certificates and policies, and secure a loan after a given period of time.

Members of Class E can purchase 25 shares of Bank Stock, and two shares for each year of their membership; likewise, they may take their policies and certificates of Bank Stock, and secure a loan after a given period of time. You will readily see that the membership, in either one of these Classes, like the Fountains and the Rosebuds, benefits the member in health, as well as his family in death.

15. THE TRUE REFORMERS' BANK.

The Savings Bank of the G. F. U. O. F. R. was chartered March 1, 1888. Its capital stock is \$100,000. It commenced business April 3, 1889. The amount of business to March 1, 1893, is \$3,453,100. The stock of this bank is sold to the membership of the Fountains, Rosebuds, B and E classes, and pays a dividend of 20 per cent on the dollar. Persons can deposit their moneys on time or demand. The bank pays 4 per cent interest on all time deposits. Moneys on demand are held subject to the orders of the depositors. Deposits are received from 10 cents and upwards. Special attention is given to the collection of notes and drafts. In 1893 this was the only bank in Richmond which continued to pay currency to its depositors during the financial stringency, while the other banks were using scrip.

6. REAL ESTATE OF THE U. O. T. R.

This Department manages and controls the property of the organization. It grows out of the necessity of having offices and buildings in which to carry on the business of the organization, and to furnish halls for the Subordinate Lodges. Buildings now owned, 12; farms, 3; dwellings, 2; hotels, 1; with a fee simple value of \$104,000. Buildings leased, 18.

7. THE REFORMER, the Organ of the Order.

The Reformer is the Beacon-Light, the Head-Light, the General Messenger and the General Agent of the Brotherhood. It is a live race journal, with a circulation of 6,000. It is the medium of the Order, and its columns teem with all its doings and achievements. Send for sample copies. It is published weekly in The Reformer Printing Office, Richmond, Va., having a first-class job department, and makes a specialty of high-class work.